

South Dakota MILK PRODUCTION

News Release

January 17, 2003

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2002 MILK PRODUCTION DOWN

SIOUX FALLS, January 17, 2003 - - The October - December quarterly milk production for South Dakota totaled 336 million pounds, 15 percent below the fourth quarter one year ago, according to USDA's South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. This is 3 percent below the July - September quarter in 2002, primarily due to fewer milk cows this quarter.

The average number of milk cows during the quarter, at 95,000 head, was down 3,000 head from the fourth quarter of 2001 and down 1,000 head from 2002's July - September quarter.

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